



Stakeholder Update: COVID 19

**Medicaid and CHIP Services
December 2, 2021**



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Stakeholder Session Update

- *Beginning May 6, 2021, HHSC will post pre-recorded sessions monthly.*
- *These sessions will continue to share information with stakeholders about the implementation of various Medicaid/CHIP flexibilities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- *HHSC may return to weekly sessions as needed if there are changes to the public health emergency.*





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Medicaid & CHIP Flexibilities COVID-19 Updates

Erica Brown, *Director*, Office of Policy

Medicaid & CHIP Flexibilities Extensions

- Many Medicaid and CHIP flexibilities are extended through December 31, 2021, unless the federal Public Health Emergency ends sooner.
 - This continues to include many teleservices that are being analyzed in alignment with House Bill 4.
- The flexibility waiving office visit copayments for all CHIP members is still extended until January 31, 2022.



Medicaid & CHIP

Flexibilities (cont.)

Information on the flexibilities and extensions can be found on the following webpages:

- **TMHP Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information**
(<http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/COVID-19/COVID-19-HOME.aspx>)
- **HHS Provider (PL) and Information (IL) letters**
(<http://apps.hhs.texas.gov/providers/communications/letters.cfm>)
- **HHS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Provider Information**
(<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/medicaid-chip-services-information-providers>)



Virtual Consumer Directed Services Employer Orientations

- Effective February 1, 2022, FMSAs can permanently conduct new employer orientations virtually (i.e. audio-visual) in addition to continuing to allow for in-person orientations based on the CDS employer's preference.
 - A notice with updated guidance and more detailed information will be published on the HHSC website and on TexConnect in early 2022.



Virtual Consumer Directed Services Employer Orientations

- Use of audio-only for employer orientations allowed as a COVID-19 flexibility will not become a permanent policy.
 - FMSAs should provide employer orientations that are scheduled through January 31, 2022 virtually, by telephone, or in person if that is the person's preference.
 - After January, all employer orientations must be done using either an audio-visual platform or in-person, based on the preference of the CDS employer.



Virtual Consumer Directed Services Employer Orientations

- FMSAs, CDS employers and designated representatives must follow state and federal laws, rules, regulations, and policy letters on Medicaid services.
- HHSC reminds CDS employers and designated representatives that a service backup plan is required and should be in place.
- References: HHSC published [IL 2021-54 \(PDF\)](#) on November 18, 2021.
 - This is a revision to Information Letter 2021-17, first published on February 26, 2021.
 - HHSC published an MCO notice to TexConnect on November 18, 2021.





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Medicaid & CHIP Flexibilities COVID-19 Updates

Sarah Gonzaga, *Manager*, Medical Benefits

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COVID-19 Updates

COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Codes 0034A and 0064A are Now Medicaid and CHIP Benefits

- Effective for dates of service on or after October 20, 2021, in accordance with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amendments to the Emergency Use Authorizations (EUAs), COVID-19 vaccine administration procedure codes 0034A and 0064A are benefits of Medicaid, Healthy Texas Women (HTW), the Family Planning Program (FPP), and the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Services Program.



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

The FDA amendments to the EUAs allow the following:

- The use of a single booster dose of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (procedure code 0034A), at least two months after completion of the single-dose primary regimen to individuals who are 18 years of age or older



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

The FDA amendments to the EUAs allow the following:

- The use of a single booster dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine (procedure code 0064A), at least six months after completion of the primary series in:
 - Individuals who are 65 years of age or older
 - Long-term care facility residents who are 18 years of age or older.
 - Individuals who are 18 through 64 years of age with underlying medical conditions
 - Individuals who are 18 through 64 years of age and at increased risk for exposure and transmission due to occupational or institutional setting

Note: Moderna COVID-19 vaccine procedure code 91306 is processed as informational only.



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

The FDA amendments to the EUAs allow the following:

- The use of any of the available COVID-19 vaccines as a heterologous (“mix-and-match”) booster dose in eligible individuals after completion of the primary vaccination with a different COVID-19 vaccine.
- Please note that since the addition of these benefits DSHS and the CDC have updated their guidance to now recommend boosters for everyone 18 years of age and older.
- For more information, visit <https://dshs.texas.gov/covidvaccine/> or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>.



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

Procedure codes 0034A and 0064A are Medicaid, HTW, and FPP benefits for the following providers and places of service:

Place of Service	Provider Type
Office	PA, NP, CNS, physician, pharmacist, CNM, FQHC, CCP, nephrology (hemodialysis, renal dialysis), RHC and pharmacy providers
Home	PA, NP, CNS, physician, home health agency, and CCP providers
Outpatient Hospital	FQHC, hospital, nephrology (hemodialysis, renal dialysis), RHC providers
Other location	PA, NP, CNS, physician, FQHC, CCP provider, and RHC providers



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

Procedure codes 0034A and 0064A are CSHCN Services Program benefits for the following providers and places of service:

Place of Service	Provider Type
Office	APRN, physician, pharmacist, FQHC, CCP provider, nephrology (hemodialysis, renal dialysis), RHC and pharmacy providers
Home	APRN, physician, home health agency, and CCP providers
Outpatient Hospital	FQHC, hospital, nephrology (hemodialysis, renal dialysis), RHC providers
Other location	APRN, physician, FQHC, CCP provider, and RHC providers



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

- Procedure code M0201 (COVID-19 vaccine administration inside a patient's home) can be billed in the home setting with procedure code 0034A or 0064A as of October 20, 2021.
- Affected claims with dates of service on or after October 20, 2021, will be reprocessed, and providers may receive additional payment.
 - Additional payments will be reflected on future Remittance and Status (R&S) Reports.
 - Providers are not required to appeal the claims unless they are denied for additional reasons after the claims reprocessing is complete.



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Codes 0071A and 0072A Are Now Benefits

- Effective for dates of service on or after October 29, 2021, in accordance with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, vaccine administration procedure codes 0071A and 0072A are benefits of Medicaid and the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Services Program for individuals 5 through 11 years of age.
 - Vaccine procedure code 91307 is informational only while the vaccine is distributed to providers free of charge.



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

Procedure codes 0071A and 0072A are benefits for Medicaid for the following providers and places of service:

Place of Service	Provider Type
Office	PA, NP, CNS, physician, Clinic/Group Practice, pharmacist, CNM, FQHC, CCP provider, nephrology (hemodialysis, renal dialysis), RHC, pharmacy
Home	PA, NP, CNS, physician, Clinic/Group Practice, home health agency, CCP provider
Outpatient Hospital	FQHC, hospital, nephrology (hemodialysis, renal dialysis), RHC providers
Other location	PA, NP, CNS, physician, Clinic/Group Practice, FQHC, CCP provider, RHCs



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

Procedure codes 0071A and 0072A are a CSHCN Services Program benefit for the following providers and places of service:

Place of Service	Provider Type
Office	PA, APRN, physician, Clinic/Group Practice, FQHC, CCP provider, nephrology (hemodialysis, renal dialysis), RHC
Home	PA, APRN, physician, Clinic/Group Practice, home health agency, CCP provider
Outpatient Hospital	FQHC, hospital, nephrology (hemodialysis, renal dialysis), RHC providers
Other location	PA, APRN, physician, Clinic/Group Practice, FQHC, CCP provider, RHCs



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

Providers should reference the table below when submitting claims for COVID-19 vaccine administration for individuals 5 through 11 years of age:

Vaccine Code	Vaccine Admin Codes	Labeler Name	Admin Interval
91307	0071A (1 st dose)	Pfizer	21 days
	0072A (2 nd dose)		



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

- Procedure code M0201 (COVID-19 vaccine administration inside a patient's home) can be billed in the Home setting with procedure code 0071A or 0072A as of October 29, 2021.
- Affected claims with dates of service on or after October 29, 2021, will be reprocessed, and providers may receive additional payment.
 - Additional payments will be reflected on future Remittance and Status (R&S) Reports.
 - Providers are not required to appeal the claims unless they are denied for additional reasons after the claims reprocessing is complete.



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

- Providers interested in enrolling as a COVID-19 vaccinator should visit <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/provider-information.aspx>.
- For more information, call the TMHP Contact Center at 800-925-9126 or the TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center at 800-568-2413.



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

Additional Diagnosis Code for Monoclonal Antibody Therapy Administration Codes M0245 and M0246

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has revised the [emergency use authorization \(EUA\) for Eli Lilly brand monoclonal antibody therapy \(bamlanivimab and etesevimab, administered together\)](#) to include emergency use as postexposure prophylaxis (prevention) for COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients (12 years of age or older weighing at least 40 kg) who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death.



COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

- Effective for dates of service on or after September 16, 2021, diagnosis code Z20822, indicating possible exposure to COVID-19, will be added as a payable diagnosis for procedure codes M0245 and M0246 for monoclonal antibody therapy administration.
- Affected claims with dates of service submitted on or after September 16, 2021, will be reprocessed.
 - Providers may receive an additional payment, which will be reflected on future Remittance and Status Reports.
- For more information, call the TMHP Contact Center at 800-925-9126 or the TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center at 800-568-2413.





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Medicaid & CHIP Flexibilities

Julie Nieto, *Senior Advisor*
Vendor Drug Program

COVID-19 Vaccine Coverage Update: Comirnaty and Pfizer Age Change (1 of 2)

Comirnaty

- On August 23, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued full approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, now marketed as Comirnaty, for individuals 16 years of age and older.
- As of October 25, 2021, Medicaid covers the brand name Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine with an effective formulary coverage date of August 23, 2021, to align with the FDA approval date.



COVID-19 Vaccine Coverage Update: Comirnaty and Pfizer Age Change (2 of 2)

Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

- The FDA issued a new EUA for using the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine on October 29, 2021, for children aged 5-11 years.
- Effective November 1, 2021, Medicaid added coverage for the pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.



Coverage of COVID-19 Booster Doses of Moderna and Johnson & Johnson Vaccines (Nov. 8, 2021)

- On October 20, 2021, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended the emergency use authorizations (EUAs) for both the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine and the Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine to allow for the use of a booster dose in certain individuals.
- October 27, 2021, HHSC began accepting fee-for-service pharmacy claims for the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine and the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine booster dose.



Change in Age Limit for Pharmacist-Administered Influenza Vaccines

(Nov. 19, 2021) (1 of 2)

- Under the federal Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act), pharmacists may order and administer influenza vaccines to clients three years of age and older.
- Traditional fee-for-service Medicaid began covering influenza vaccines for clients three years and older beginning Nov. 22, 2021.



Change in Age Limit for Pharmacist-Administered Influenza Vaccines

(Nov. 19, 2021) (2 of 2)

- Under managed care, HHSC requires MCOs to reimburse pharmacies for influenza vaccines available on the Medicaid and CHIP formularies administered to members aged three and older in a pharmacy setting by Dec. 17, 2021.
- HHSC encourages pharmacies to report to ImmTrac2 and proactively collaborate with primary care medical homes.





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LTCR Updates

Diana Conces, *Director*

LTCR Policy, Rules & Training

Emergency Rules

HCSSA

- Rules allowing for purchase, storage, transport of COVID-19 vaccine reissued 11/24

NF

- Mitigation and visitation rules reissued 11/28

NF and ALF

- Rules requiring reporting of COVID-19 vaccinations extended until 1/5/22



Regulatory Flexibilities

- **Reminder:** [PL 2021-29](#) listed flexibilities that ended. As of 10/3/21, providers must renew their licenses on time.
 - Licenses expiring **after** 10/3: must be renewed on time in accordance with licensure rules
 - Licenses that expired **before** the waiver was lifted on 10/3: providers have until 1/2/22 to renew
- Also, per PL 2021-29, NFs have until 12/2/21 to submit historical Medicaid occupancy data.
- **Reminder:** federal flexibilities regarding nurse aide training are **still in effect**.



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Other News

- **Updated:** ALF COVID-19 Response Plan (11/18)
- Upcoming COVID-19 FAQ webinars:
 - [NF](#): 12/8 at 2:30 PM
 - [ALF](#): 12/8 at 11 AM
 - [ICF](#): 12/13 at 11 AM
 - [HCSSA](#): 12/10 at 11 AM
 - [DAHS](#): 12/14 at 11 AM
- Upcoming joint training:
 - [PPE: A Shield Against Infection](#) on 12/22
 - [Infection Control for HCSSAs](#) on 12/30



COVID-19 Response

Communication Channels

Clients

- [COVID section on HHS site](#)
- Health plan channels and providers

Providers

- [COVID section on HHS site](#)
- [COVID section on TMHP site](#)
- Health plan channels

+ Update calls

Submit questions to:
Medicaid_COVID_Questions@hhs.texas.gov



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Thank You!

**Next update:
January 6, 2022**